

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

Yes. The flag would prevent making copies and possibly even initial recording.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Most likely. A flag that prevents re-broadcast might also interfere with a "narrowcast" within a home network.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

Quite possibly. New technologies often interfere with the operation of existing ones. The flag may prevent initial recording on older VCRs, for instance, stopping the unit's usefulness in time-shift recording.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

Yes. Any requirement automatically limits the possible scenarios or configurations for new equipment.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

The costs will, of course, increase, just as when any other new feature is added.